

**Memorandum of the Meeting
Regular Study Session/Meeting
Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland
Monday, October 5, 2009**

The regular session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the plenary meeting chambers on **Monday, October 5, 2009** at the regular time of 7:15 o'clock p.m.

Silent Roll Call: Councilors Dan Vassar, Bernie Zemen, Mark Herak, and Konnie Kuiper were present. Councilor Novak was absent owing to a prior commitment. The Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Katy Dowling was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Also present: Mark Roorda of the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners and Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director and Greg Kuzmar of the Redevelopment Commission were present. Tom Brown of the Brown Insurance Group was also present.

General Substance of Matters Discussed

1. The Town Council and the Tom Brown discuss the prospect of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns initiative to form a Medical Trust and offer to members access to a group statewide health insurance plan. Mr. Brown had reviewed the proposal and acknowledged that, given the cost estimates, he is supportive of this plan for the Town of Highland.

Tom Brown discussed the costs associated with the medical pool and some potential risks related to claims data, viability of the pool, exit provisions in the contract, underwriting risks, and cost control.

2. Councilor Herak commented that the Town Council is not making a decision tonight, however, nothing has been signed on and, currently, Tom Brown is still the insurance agent for the Town of Highland.
3. Cecile Petro, Redevelopment Director, began her presentation with regard to design standards, covering the redevelopment area that was subject to the design standards. The design standards provide guidance to developers so that they are well-informed of the needs and wants of the Town of Highland. The design standards are meant to make the downtown area pedestrian-friendly.
4. Greg Kuzmar, Redevelopment Commissioner, commented that the Town Council should review the downtown concepts that are utilized by the Burr Ridge, IL community which incorporates 1st floor retail with 2nd and 3rd floor residential condominiums. Ms. Petro highlighted the necessity of this type of housing for dual income families with no children and/or "empty nesters."
5. The Town Council and the Redevelopment Director discussed the difficulties in developing Kennedy Avenue and Indianapolis Boulevard, the right of property owners to leave properties vacant/unused as long as they are meeting the minimum requirements of property maintenance, and the possibility of legally action against commercial property owners who leave properties vacant for extended periods of time.

There being no further business to come before the Town Council, the regular study session of the Town Council, of **Monday, October 5, 2009**, was adjourned 8:30 o'clock p.m.

Kathleen A. Dowling
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer